

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Boerman on 18 December 2012.

The application has been amended as follows:

Abstract:

A method and system which provides communication between a first portable device ~~(e.g., a smart card) having a first storage device~~ and a second portable device ~~(e.g., also a smart card) having a second storage device~~. This is ~~performed using, preferably, an authenticated system message~~. The first storage portable device stores ~~thereon~~ a first sequence number and a first key ~~(e.g., a first global signing key)~~, and the second ~~storage~~ portable device stores ~~thereon~~ a second sequence number and a second ~~global signing~~ key ~~(e.g., a second global signing key)~~. Verification is performed using the first and second keys. The first sequence number is compared to the second sequence number. If the second sequence number is newer than the first sequence number, ~~a verification is performed using the first and second keys~~. ~~Then~~, the first sequence number is set to have a value of the second sequence number if the verification succeeds. If the first sequence number is newer than the second sequence number, the second

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~~sequence number is set to have a value of the first sequence number if verification succeeds. At least one of the first and second portable devices may receive an authenticated system message which includes a command. In another embodiment of the present invention, a method and system is provided to determine an approximate current time using the first and second portable devices. In particular, the first sequence number is compared to the second sequence number. The first sequence number is indicative of a first time provided on the first portable device, and the second sequence number is indicative of the time provided on the portable device. If the second time is newer than the first time, a verification is performed using the first and second keys, and the first sequence number is set to have a value of the second sequence number if the verification succeeds.~~

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ARAVIND MOORTHY whose telephone number is (571)272-3793. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aravind K Moorthy/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2492